



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **GAINESVILLE MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO ROBBING AVA BANK**

**SPRINGFIELD, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Gainesville, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to robbing Great Southern Bank in Ava, Mo.

**Eric Edwin Emery**, 41, of Gainesville, pleaded guilty before U.S. Magistrate Judge James C. England this morning to the charge contained in a June 1, 2005, federal indictment.

By pleading guilty today, **Emery** admitted that he robbed the Great Southern Bank at 102 N. Jefferson in Ava on April 30, 2005. **Emery** walked into the bank at about 11:30 a.m., Graves said, approached a teller, and handed her a note that was not recovered, but contained words to the effect, "I have a gun in my pocket. Give me all your money." The teller complied and placed \$1,539 from her teller drawer on the teller counter. **Emery** took the money from the counter and left the bank.

Under federal statutes, **Emery** could be subject to a sentence of up to 20 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$250,000 and an order of restitution. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Douglas C. Bunch. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Douglas County, Mo., Sheriff's Department.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

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